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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL

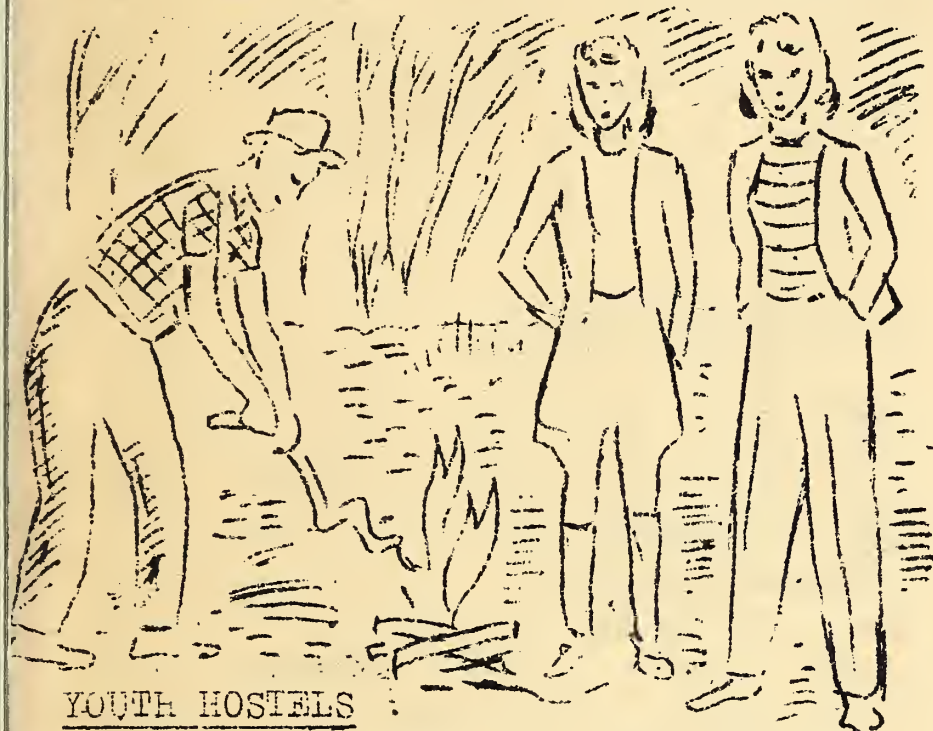
Division of Personnel Relations and Safety

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

YOUTH HOSTELS

Do you know about the American Youth Hostels? It's a fun-loving group of young folks from 4 to 84 who do things. They issue a news sheet each month for their members which describes the good times planned.

Each Sunday the Hostels have horseback riding, hiking, biking and farming trips. Overnite trips are regular features. There are planned Hostels vacation trips. Many Hostellers love to Square Dance and there are regular nites for that activity.

If you would like to be a Hosteler you may get a yearly pass for \$1.50 if you're under 21 and for \$2.50 if over 21. For further infor-

mation phone the Hostels Office, Ex. 3500, located at 472 Indiana Ave., N. W.

Some of the events coming up are: Sept. 21 - Open House at Hostels Office, Buffet Supper 6 p.m. Call Ex. 3500 for reservations. Sept. 22 - Sunset Canoe Trips (swimmers only). Bring supper. Call for reservations. Sept. 22 - Moonlite Horseback Ride. Bring sandwiches. Call Mi. 6698 for reservations. Sept. 22 - Square Dance Festival at 8 p.m. at Social Hall, Mt. Vernon Pl. Church. Sept. 23 - 35 mile bike trip to Difficult Run, Va. Bring lunch and swim suit. Meet Georgetown side of Key Bridge, 10:30 a.m.

Now that we have Saturdays and Sundays both free we'll want to enjoy our week-ends. Youth Hostels is one organization which can help you to have good times.

THE WASHINGTON GRAND OPERA CO.

The Washington Grand Opera Co. is conducting a drive for a sustaining fund for its third season. Contributions will be accepted by your bureau contact officer thru September 21. If you prefer to make your contribution at a later date, your contact officer has a pledge card which you may sign.

"IT'S ALL YOURS"

Have you seen the booklet "It's All Yours", which tells the story of your Welfare Association? It gives the background of the Association and describes the services and benefits provided for its 10,000 members. The biggest service, of course, is the operation of the cafeterias. It also cooperates with the Athletic and Recreation Association; it makes special purchases, such as the paper for this Bulletin, for general employee welfare; it has a special loan service without interest for emergency cases.

We're fortunate in having this fine organization to serve us. The Association is always interested in your ideas and suggestions to improve its service. Never hesitate to present ideas which you feel will be beneficial. If you have any complaints to make, the Association will appreciate your bringing the matter to its attention promptly. In the event there is a complaint about the food it should be brought to the attention of the cafeteria supervisor immediately so prompt and effective measures can be taken to correct the condition.

Listings of the Association's officers and the members of the Board of Directors are included in the publication for your information.

USDA Welfare Association - it's all yours.

CHORAL GUILD

The USDA Choral Guild will hold its first practice meeting Friday, September 21, 1945, at 5:40 p.m. in the Jefferson Memorial Auditorium. Thereafter the Guild will meet each Friday at 5:40. New members are cordially invited. For further information, call Mrs. Henneberry, ext. 6237.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Do you remember the thought-provoking discussion groups called Discussion of Significant Books, Group Reading under Leadership which were conducted last year by the D.C. Public Library at Central Library and several of the branches? We are glad to be able to **announce** that these groups, which were so successful last year, are to be repeated this year under the direction of Dr. John Powell. The first sessions will begin October 1. It is necessary to register in person at the Central Library, 8th and K Streets, N. W. Registration dates are September 24, 25 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Again the Library will have the books available which you will be expected to read in the courses. There are no educational requirements for the courses and no fees. They only ask that you read the books assigned. Further information may be obtained by calling Na. 6776, the Office of Adult Education.

BOWLING

The Agriculture Men's Bowling League began its season Thursday, September 14, at 7 o'clock at Convention Hall. They will play every week, same time, same place. Tom Moyer, ext. 5656, is League Secretary.

HELP WANTED!

The USO Information Services needs volunteers to staff the information desks of the numerous clubs in Washington. The need for workers seems to have grown since V-J Day and classes will be conducted the first and second weeks in October to train new information workers. These classes will be conducted by the Information Services of the War Hospitality Committee. Call Na. 1566 for further information.

If you have already completed a training course and would like to serve a three-hour shift call Mrs. G. Osborne, Salvation Army USO, Ro. 5482, or Miss Gertrude Rest, ext. 6103.

GARDEN HARVEST SHOW

Next week, on September 27 and 28, the Second Annual Garden Harvest Show will be held in the Patio. Be sure to enter your exhibit between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. on September 27. The Show will be open to the public from 1 p.m. on September 27 till 5 p.m. September 28. Everyone is invited to view the Show, which we expect to be even more successful than last year's.

AMERICAN LEGION - A TRUE STORY

Two years ago many employee contributions made it possible for Agriculture Post to send hundreds of pocket chess sets to our servicemen who were prisoners of war. At that time, Nick Pagnotta was Post Commander and he had a son in Europe. His son had a pal over there, Lieut. Walter Lackanau, who later spent fourteen months in German prison camps. Recently Lieut. Lackanau was relating some of his experiences and he just happened to mention that one of those chess sets (purchased with an Agriculture employee's contribution) had done much to help him retain his sanity thru the dreary days he spent in the infamous Stalag Luft No. 3. "Bread cast upon the waters..."

CONCERTS

Tickets for two Sunday afternoon concert series may be obtained from Mrs. Dorsey's Concert Bureau, 1108 G St., N. W., Na. 7151,-2. The First Series opens November 4, with a return engagement of Claudio Arrau and the Second Series opens with Gladys Swarthout on November 18. All concerts are at four o'clock. Both series have outstanding programs. Schedules may be seen on bulletin boards.

"MANHATTAN NIGHT"

The New York State Society will hold its first dance of the season at the Shoreham on September 22, 9:30 till 12:30.

TRIPS TO TAKE

What did you do that was different on your first two-day weekend? Did you relax and have fun and return to work refreshed for the five-day week ahead? Did you do something to give you a new perspective?

There are lots of places to see around Washington. You are familiar with most of the items of interest within the city, probably, but if you aren't, get sightseeing guides and information from your bureau contact officer or from the D. C. Information Booth, 14th and E St., N.W.

If you've already "done the town" try seeing the surrounding country-side. Have you been over Skyline Drive, that famous panorama of Nature's beauty and color, in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia? It's never prettier, than when flaunting its autumn dress. There are a number of places in the Shenandoah Valley for overnite accommodations. There are also many interesting natural caverns in this area which you may wish to stop and see or you might want to save them for a second trip. The Natural Bridge is a phenomenon you'll enjoy visiting.

In the other direction, you'll find the mountains of Western Maryland. Sugar Loaf Mt. has been a favorite picnic spot for Washingtonians for years. Frederick and Harpers Ferry are historic places of interest. There are many other

places we haven't mentioned because of lack of space, but the D. C. Information Booth, the American Automobile Association, and local gasoline companies are all able to supply trip information and maps.

Of course, these trips require automobiles. If you don't have one plan a trip with friends who do or get a group together and rent a car.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 23 - Historical tour of Arlington National Cemetery presented by National Capital Parks. Meet at 2 p.m. at Arlington Memorial Gateway.

Sept. 23 - Walk to learn stories written in stone of some of Washington's buildings. Meet on the south steps of U. S. National Museum at 3 p.m.

Sept. 30 - National Capital Parks presents: 1. A Bird Walk on Roosevelt Island, meeting at temporary bridge on G. W. Memorial Parkway just south of Rosslyn Plaza, Va., 7 a.m. 2. Camera Stroll at the Zoo, meeting at Duck Pond near Harvard Street Entrance, 2 p.m.

PLAYING CARDS WANTED

The War Hospitality Committee is collecting playing cards to be sent to near-by camps for soldiers who will be stationed in the vicinity temporarily while waiting to be reassigned or discharged. You may leave your contributions with your bureau contact officer.